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UNCLAS AMMAN 000017

SIPDIS

PASS TO G/IWI FOR SARAH BANNISTER

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PREL OVIP KWMN KPAO KSEP

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR NAME/TITLE OF MINISTER OF WOMEN'S AFFAIRS

REF: SECSTATE 256058

¶11. Per reftel, the GOJ has no ministerial position for women's affairs. Women's issues in large part fall under the Ministry of Social Development, which is headed by Ruwaida Ma'ita. In addition to Ma'ita, several other prominent Jordanian women are engaged in women's issues. Farah Daghistani, the daughter of Princess Basma, currently is the director of the Jordan Hashemite Fund for Human Development (JOHUD), the largest Jordanian NGO. As the director of JOHUD, Daghistani has worked on many gender specific issues and is also well-versed in microenterprise. Substantively, Rania Atalla, the Chief of Staff for the office of Queen Rania, is the mover and shaker behind many of Queen Rania's initiatives to improve the status of women in Jordan. At the Prime Ministry, Nancy Bekir, whose official title is Coordinator for Human Rights, also follows women's issues.

GNEHM